

4VAC15-240-20

Game: Turkey: Open season; certain counties and areas; two-week season.

Summary:

This proposal will remove Orange County from the list of counties which have a two week fall turkey season and add it to the regulation for a six week fall turkey season (4VAC15-240-32).

Proposed language of amendment:

4VAC15-240-20 Open season; certain counties and areas; two-week season.

It shall be lawful to hunt turkeys 14 days immediately before the Saturday prior to the first Monday in November and on Thanksgiving Day in the Counties of Albemarle, Alleghany, Augusta, Bath, Greene, Highland, Madison, Page, ~~Orange~~, and Rockingham.

Rationale:

Current population trends and density estimates for Orange County show positive improvements in the status of the turkey population. Orange County currently has a moderate turkey density with a population trend that is increasing at a significant rate. Staff believe the population is stable enough to sustain an increased fall harvest opportunity based on the current population metrics. The remaining counties in this grouping of two week fall season do not currently indicate population trends of significant increases that would allow for additional fall harvest opportunities.